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LOUISIANA 1999 CROP ACREAGE AND PRODUCTION

Sugarcane set records for acreage, yield, and production in 1999. Production of other crops increased, except for corn, according to Dave Frank, State Statistician for the Louisiana Agricultural Statistics Service. Estimates for the 1999 crop year for all crops are as follows:

CORN FOR GRAIN production was estimated at 39.9 million bushels, down 9 percent from 1998. Total acres planted was estimated at 340,000 of which 330,000 acres were harvested for grain. These were down 51 percent and 39 percent, respectively, from 1998. Yield per acre at 121 bushels, was a sharp increase of 40 bushels from 1998.

COTTON production was estimated at 900,000 bales, up 40 percent from the previous year. Total acres planted in 1999 was estimated at 615,000, of which 610,000 were harvested. These were up 15 and 16 percent from 1998. Yield per acre was estimated at 708 pounds, an increase of 122 pounds from 1998.

ALL RICE production, at 30.8 million cwt, was up 10 percent from the previous year. Production of long grain varieties was 29.1 million cwt, and production of medium grain varieties was 1.8 million cwt. All rice planted acres totaled 620,000, down 1 percent from 1998. The total consisted of 585,000 acres of long grain, and 35,000 acres of medium grain. All rice harvested, at 616,000 acres, was down 1 percent from 1998, with 581,000 long grain, and 35,000 medium grain. All rice yield was estimated at 5,000 pounds per acre; 5,000 pounds per acre for long grain, and 5,070 pounds per acre for medium grain. All rice yield was up 470 pounds per acre from the 1998 crop year.

SORGHUM FOR GRAIN production was estimated at 19.3 million bushels compared to 7.5 million bushels the previous year. Total acres planted was estimated at 240,000 acres, of which 235,000 acres were harvested for grain, up 85 percent and 88 percent, respectively, from 1998. Yield per acre at 82 bushels was up 22 bushels from 1998. This was the highest yield ever recorded in the State.

SOYBEAN production, at 26.7 million bushels, was up 19 percent from last year. Total planted acres were down 15 percent from a year earlier to 1,020,000, of which 990,000 were harvested. Yield per acre at 27.0 bushels, was up 6 bushels from 1998.

SUGARCANE production for sugar and seed was estimated at a record 15.3 million net tons, up 19 percent from the previous year's crop. This was the highest acreage, yield, and production ever recorded in the State. Louisiana moved ahead of Florida to become the number one State in the United States for sugarcane acreage in 1999. Yield per acre, estimated at 33.0 net tons, was up 3.3 net tons from a year ago.

SWEET POTATO production was estimated at 3.5 million cwt, up 57 percent from 1998. Total planted and harvested acres at 24,000 and 23,000, respectively, were up 14 and 15 percent from the previous year's crop. Yield per acre at 150 cwt, was up 40 cwt from a year earlier.

HAY production, at 912,000 tons, was up 26 percent from last year. Harvested acres totaled 380,000 acres, up 15 percent from 1998. Yield was estimated at 2.4 tons per acre, 0.2 ton above a year ago.

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